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CONTACT: [Laura J. Mulry](#)

Communications Officer, 505-946-7980

Five New Mexico Colleges Band Together to Share One Enterprise Technology System
First-of-its-kind partnership leading to shared systems across colleges to better serve students, communities

Five New Mexico public colleges have announced a groundbreaking partnership that will fundamentally change the higher education student experience, as well as business operations and other campus functions. Clovis Community College, Central New Mexico Community College, Northern New Mexico College, San Juan College, and Santa Fe Community College have joined forces to develop a single, shared enterprise technology system to manage student, financial, human resources, and various other campus services and records. This transformative effort, the first of its kind in the nation, is supported by the New Mexico Independent Community Colleges and the New Mexico Higher Education Department. It will provide much greater synchronicity and efficiency among the colleges, with the primary focus being to create much easier and more convenient ways for students to interact with one or all of the colleges.

Prior to the pandemic, these five colleges joined forces to find a solution to common, yet very significant, technology challenges faced by colleges across the country. Working closely together, they identified a solution: a higher education Shared Services Enterprise Resource Planning system. There are many benefits to sharing an integrated system across colleges, most important of which is to better serve students.

Once actualized, the new collaboration will eliminate the need for multiple applications for student admission and registration; reduce duplication of student and employee records; streamline the student transfer process; provide academic programming and staff reinforcements when needed across colleges; increase interaction with prospective and current students, community members and business partners; and more. All five colleges will share one system while protecting personal information and managing data in a secure environment. To further advance the project and provide guidance, the group is in the process of forming a nonprofit.

Through the collaboration, participating colleges will share decision-making, data and processes, resulting in more efficient and cost-effective operations. Users will also find the new platform more agile and more intuitive, including on mobile devices. Multiple teams from participating colleges with expertise in specific areas worked together over many months to develop a comprehensive Request for Proposals. The collaborative is in the process of reviewing proposals from qualified vendors and system implementors. The new system will allow for sharing of staff and skillsets across the institutions and will contain technology costs by leveraging economies of scale and reducing the need for many third-party systems.